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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 CAB-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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COMM/BIC/OED: R. WILBOURNE
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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
FAA BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: US INDUSTRY COMMENTS ON CONCORDE
REF: 75PARIS 33873

ATTN: CIVAIR ATTACHE

1. REFTEL RAISED QUESTION OF AIA TESTIMONY IN SECRETARY COLEMAN'S RECENT HEARINGS. FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT PLACED IN RECORD, PROVIDED BY AIAA PRESIDENT KARL HARR. QUOTE:

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS MADE IN THE AGENDA OF THE JANUARY 5, 1976 PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE BRITISH-FRENCH CONCORDE (SST), THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (AIA) WISHES TO PRESENT ITS VIEWS ON THE ENTRY OF THE CONCORDE TO U.S. AIRPORTS. THE AIA IS A VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATION OF U.S. MANUFACTURERS OF AEROSPACE VEHICLES, SYSTEMS, SUBSYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS
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INCLUDING COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT. WE HOLD TO THE

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OPINION THAT CANCELLATIONS OF THE U.S.-SST PROGRAM,
PARTICULARLY AS IT NEARED THE STAGE WHERE THE PROTOTYPE
AIRCRAFT COULD HAVE BEEN TESTED OPERATIONALLY, WILL
EVENTUALLY PROVE TO HAVE BEEN AGAINST THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

WE MUST RECOGNIZE THE COMPETITIVE ENDEAVORS OF THE

BRITISH AND THE FRENCH WHICH HAVE BROUGHT THE CONCORDE
SUPERSONIC AIRCRAFT INTO PRODUCTION AND TO A STAGE OF
READINESS FOR COMMERCIAL SERVICE. THIS PROGRESSIVE
STATE OF THE ART ACCOMPLISHMENT MUST BE RECOGNIZED AND
PROPERLY EVALUATED. WHATEVER THE CONCERNS CURRENTLY
BEING EXPRESSED BY SOME AS TO THE MERITS OF THE CONCORDE
OR ITS POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS, THE MEMBERS OF
THE AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC,
SUBMIT THAT A SENSE OF EQUITY AND FAIRNESS SHOULD PREVAIL
TO THE EXTENT THAT THE CONCORDE BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE
INTO THE UNITED STATES. ANY LIMITATION SHOULD BE
CONFINED TO A REQUIREMENT THAT PRODUCTION AIRCRAFT AFTER
A REASONABLE DATE MUST MEET ANY APPLICABLE PORTIONS
OF FAR 36. WE ARE OF THE SINCERE OPINION THAT, AS WITH
MANY INNOVATIONS INTRODUCED OVER TIME, THE ACCEPTABILITY
OF SUPERSONIC FLIGHT BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS WELL AS
BY THE TRAVELING PUBLIC WILL PROVE TO BE SUBSTANTIAL
AND THAT ANY PROBLEMS ATTENDANT TO THIS NEW, ADVANCED
MODE OF TRANSPORTATION WILL PROVE SOLVABLE TO THE
NET ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL BENEFIT OF AN INTERDEPENDENT
WORLD. UNQUOTE

3. FWI: SUPPORTIVE STATEMENTS ALSO WERE MADE BY RICHARD
FITZSIMMONS, DIRECTOR OF ADVANCED SUPERSONIC TRANSPORT
DEVELOPMENT, MCDONNELL DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT CORPORATION AND
WILLIAM MAGRUDER, SR., VICE PRESIDENT, PIEDMONT AIRLINES,
FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF U.S. SST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND
COUNSEL TO PRESIDENT NIXON ON TECHNOLOGY UTILIZATION. SISCO

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